

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

49. (Currently Amended) A method of managing the pharmaceutical care of a patient using one or more software-accessible databases comprising the steps of:

providing a clinical database on a plurality of drugs, each drug in the database being associated with a multi-character therapeutic cross reference code, wherein a first set of characters represent a class of drugs, a second set of characters represents a subclass of drugs, and a third set of characters represent a specific drug;

updating a patient database with a drug therapy regimen for the patient, the drug therapy regimen comprising an identification of each drug prescribed to the patient, a frequency per day for each drug, and a daily dosage for each drug;

updating the patient database with patient data, the patient data comprising any disease states and allergies for the patient;

querying the clinical database with the drug therapy regimen and patient data, wherein the querying step further comprises identifying: (a) allergies the patient has for any of the prescribed drugs; (b) drug-drug interactions for any of the prescribed drugs; (c) dosage irregularities; (d) drug-disease contradictions; (e) therapeutic duplications; (f) drug(s) in the drug therapy regimen without a medical indication; (g) adverse drug reactions; and (h) untreated disease states wherein the identification is based at least in part on a comparison of the multi-character therapeutic cross reference code with the patient database records;

querying the clinical database with a selection, by a clinician, of a disease state from a list of one or more existing disease states associated with the patient;

presenting a user with one or more alternative drugs based at least in part on the querying step; and

generating a report based on the querying step.

50. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 49, wherein the querying step identifies the following additional information for each patient:

- (i) information regarding use or efficacy of any of the prescribed drugs; and
- (ii) information regarding patient compliance.

51. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 50, wherein the querying step identifies the following additional information for each patient:

- (k) information regarding an assessment of the educational needs of the patient; and
- (l) information regarding the financial circumstances of the patient.

52. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 49, wherein the drug therapy regimen for the patient comprises a plurality of drugs prescribed by more than one physician.

53. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 49, wherein the clinical database is queried with the one or more alternative drugs prior to presentation to the user.

54. (Currently Amended) A method of managing the pharmaceutical care of a patient using one or more software-accessible databases comprising the steps of:

providing a clinical database on a plurality of drugs, each drug in the database being associated with a multi-character therapeutic cross reference code, wherein a first set of characters represent a class of drugs, a second set of characters represents a subclass of drugs, and a third set of characters represent a specific drug;

updating a patient database with a drug therapy regimen for the patient;

updating the patient database with patient data, the patient data comprising any disease states and allergies for the patient;

identifying: (a) allergies the patient has for any of the prescribed drugs; (b) drug-drug interactions for any of the prescribed drugs; (c) dosage irregularities; (d) drug-disease contradictions; (e) therapeutic duplications; (f) drug(s) in the drug therapy regimen without a medical indication; (g) adverse drug reactions; and (h) untreated disease states wherein the identification is based at least in part on a comparison of the multi-character therapeutic cross reference code with the patient database records; ~~and~~

identifying, with a selection by a clinician, a disease state from a list of one or more existing disease states associated with the patient; and

presenting a user with one or more alternative drugs based at least in part on the querying step.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein the multi-character therapeutic cross reference code comprises an eight character code with the first two characters represent a class of drugs, the next four characters represent a subclass of drugs, and the next two characters represent a specific drug.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein the multi-character therapeutic cross reference code is associated with drug indications and contra-indications via ICD-9 codes.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, further comprising the step of generating a report.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein the patient database is updated with drug therapy regimen data and a compliance percentage is generated.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein the drug therapy regimen data is automatically imported from a pharmacy dispensing system.

60. (Previously Presented) A method for identifying one or more drugs causing an identified adverse reaction using one or more software-accessible databases, comprising the steps of:

providing a clinical database on a plurality of drugs, each drug in the database being associated with a multi-character therapeutic cross reference code, wherein a first set of characters represent a class of drugs, a second set of characters represents a subclass of drugs, and a third set of characters represent a specific drug;

querying the clinical database with a given adverse reaction;

identifying all drugs in a class or subclass of drugs having the given adverse reaction based at least in part on the multi-character therapeutic cross reference code; and

presenting a user with one or more alternative drugs based at least in part on the identifying step.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the identifying step highlights a particular drug in a patient's current drug regimen in addition to listing other drugs in the class or subclass with the same adverse reaction.

62. (New) A method for comparing drugs in a therapeutic class using one or more software-accessible databases, comprising the steps of:

providing a clinical database on a plurality of drugs, each drug in the database being associated with a multi-character therapeutic cross reference code, wherein a first set of characters represents a class of drugs, a second set of characters represents a subclass of drugs, and a third set of characters represent a specific drug;

querying the clinical database with a drug class or a drug subclass;

identifying all drugs in the drug class or the drug subclass; and

presenting a user with one or more pieces of comparative clinical information for each drug in the drug class or the drug subclass, the one or more comparative clinical information including at least one of a contraindication, an adverse reaction, and an interaction.